

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday September 17th, 2023

Silent Keys – David Maxwell EI9GBB and Tony Clifford EI9HK

It is with deep regret that we announce the recent deaths of David Maxwell EI9GBB and Tony Clifford EI9HK. David EI9GBB passed away on September 1st. Formerly of Dundrum, Co. Tipperary, he was a keen motorcyclist as well as an amateur radio operator. David was laid to rest at St. Mary's church cemetery in Dundrum, Co. Tipperary on Monday September 4th.

Tony EI9HK from Rochestown, Co. Cork passed away on September 14th. He was a member of Cork Radio Club and a long-time supporter of IRTS. Tony was laid to rest in Chetwynd, Co. Cork, on Saturday September 16th. May they both rest in peace.

IRTS Contest Updates

The IRTS 2m and 70cm contests take place today, Sunday 17th. The 70cm contest commences at 2 p.m. local time and runs for 30 minutes. Immediately after this, the 2m contest starts and will run for 90 minutes. Everyone is encouraged to take part. The contest modes are FM and SSB voice. In addition to SSB/FM and FM-only sections, the contests include a SWL section. The deadline for contest logs is October 1st.

In addition, the 80m Evening Counties contest will take place on Tuesday October 3rd. This will be a one-hour SSB/CW contest that will start at 19:00 UTC. It also has a SWL section. The rules for the contests can be found at www.irts.ie/rules

If you took part in the IRTS SSB Field Day, please note that the closing date for logs is Sunday September 17th. The IOTA 2023 results have been published. Five multi-operator and seven single operator entries were received. Well done to everyone that took part and made the significant effort to activate islands. The UK/EI 80M SSB contest series has started for the 2023/2024 season. Congratulations to Aiden McGrath EI8CE on winning overall and the high-power section. The UK/EI 80M CW contest takes place on Wednesday 27th September 2023.

The United Kingdom and Ireland Contest Club UK/EI DX SSB Contest

Continuing with the topic of contests, the UK/EI DX SSB Contest takes place from 12:00 UTC on Saturday 30th September until 12:00 UTC on Sunday 1st October 2023. The aim of this contest is to promote contacts between stations in the U.K. and Ireland (UK/EI) and stations in the rest of the world. It is an SSB-only contest operating on the 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m, and 10m bands. Further information including the rules may be found at www.ukcecc.com

Reminding Interested Clubs and Volunteers about the 145 Alive Event

Clubs and volunteers are reminded to consider helping to set up a chain of stations around the country for the 145 Alive event. This is a simplex FM operation intended to promote the increased usage of the two-metre band. The 145 Alive event will be run for the first time in Ireland on Saturday 30th September from 13:00 to 15:00 local time. Please contact David EI3IXB at 087-8334803 or via email to [ei3ixb /at/ gmail.com](mailto:ei3ixb@atgmail.com) if you can help.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group EI2WRC

On the 23rd and 24th of September, EI2WRC will be active from The Waterford and Suir Valley Railway Station in Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford for the annual Railways on the Air event. This year will celebrate EI2WRC's tenth anniversary of doing this great event from Kilmeaden. The group would like to thank the manager Maria Kyte and all the staff of WSVR for all their help and allowing them access to the station to do this event again this year. For more information about the WSVR, please see www.wsvrailway.ie

The September meeting of the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group EI2WRC will take place on Monday, September 25th at 8 p.m. sharp at the New Community Men's Shed, Ozanam Centre, Coffee House Lane, Waterford. Everyone is welcome to attend. To find out more about EI2WRC and their activities and for contact details please see www.searg.ie

August Edition of the IARU Region 1 Monitoring System Newsletter

The August edition of the IARU Monitoring System newsletter has been published. In this, they highlight the very frequent reception of burst systems acting as jammers transmitting using unknown modes. According to the newsletter, the QRM is mostly observed in the twenty, seventeen, twelve, and ten metre bands. It appears to be in the spectrum segments typically used for FT8, FT4, and other amateur digital modes. Further information about IARU Region 1 activities and their newsletters may be found at www.iaru-r1.org

Collective Communication Update

Due to a combination of overrunning works dismantling equipment from the recent Electric Picnic at Stradbally Hall combined with some structural alterations being conducted within the grounds themselves, Collective Communication report that they will not now be activating the Woodland Steam Railway during next weekend's Railways on the Air. They all very much regret this late development as they report always having such a great time at Stradbally. However, sometimes "life gets in the way" of even the best laid plans. With around some 20 activities this year the loss of one activity, although regrettable, is to some extent to be expected.

Return of the Shannon Basin Radio Club 80m Net

Shannon Basin Radio Club's 80m SSB net will resume on Thursday evenings starting on Thursday September 28th. The net will start at 9 p.m. local time. The net frequency will be announced via the club's website and social media channels closer to the date. As always, everyone is very welcome to join in even if you just have a few minutes to give a report. Reports from short wave listeners are especially welcome also. An update about the club's top band net will follow in the coming weeks. Further information about Shannon Basin Radio Club may be found at www.sbrcl.ie

Items for Inclusion in Next Week's Radio News

That is the news for this week. Items for inclusion in next week's radio news can be submitted by email to newsteam@irts.ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. The deadline is midnight on Thursday.

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